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PTO/SB/30 (08-00)  
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# REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

|                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Application Number     | 09/883,520           |
| Filing Date            | June 18, 2001        |
| Examiner Name          | Christopher C. Pratt |
| First Named Inventor   | John C. Parsons      |
| Group Art Unit         | 1771                 |
| Attorney Docket Number | 1931.VIN             |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.  
**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Consider the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) under 37 CFR 1.97(d) previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other
- Miscellaneous
- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other
3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 14-0455.
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other Information Disclosure Fee
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

|                    |                  |                                   |         |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Name (Print /Type) | Charles W. Almer | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 36,731  |
| Signature          |                  | Date                              | 3/12/04 |

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope address to Mail Stop RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Commissioner of Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date: 12 March 2004

|                       |                   |      |         |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------|---------|
| Typed or printed name | Deborah J. Mouzon |      |         |
| Signature             |                   | Date | 3/12/04 |

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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